

United States Army World Class Athlete Program

An Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation Activity U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center 4700 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302-4418





Army Athlete Profile: Sergeant Gordon "Oscar" Wood



Wrestling Greco-Roman/145 lbs

Date of birth: June 21, 1975

Hometown: Gresham, Oregon

Military Occupation: Fuel Handler

Military Rank: Sergeant/E-5

Sgt. Oscar Wood, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program stationed at Fort Carson, Colo., will compete for Team USA in the 66-kilogram/145.5-pound division of Greco-Roman wrestling in the 2004 Olympic Games at Athens, Greece, Aug. 22 through 29.

Wood earned his Olympic berth by defeating 2000 Olympian and fivetime national champion Kevin Bracken of New York Athletic Club in the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team Trials at Indianapolis. Wood pinned Bracken in 1 minute, 47 seconds of their first match and won the second 3-0. He enters the Games ranked No. 1 by USA Wrestling.

Sgt. Wood won a silver medal in the 2004 U.S. National Wrestling Championships. He won a silver medal in both freestyle and Greco-Roman at the 2004 Armed Forces Championships. Other career accomplishments include winning bronze medals at the 2001 Dave Schultz International and 2001 U.S. World Team Trials; a fifth-place finish at the 2002 U.S. National Championships; a fourth-place finish at the 2002 U.S. World Team Trials; a bronze medal at the 2002 Sunkist International and a gold medal in the 2003 All-Army Championships.

A fuel handler, Sgt. Wood entered the Army on Nov. 17, 1999. He completed basic training in February 2000 and completed advanced individual training in May 2000. He joined the Army because "it gives me an opportunity to represent my country as well as the Army. Being a member of the World Class Athlete Program is important to me because I can wrestle and support my family."

Sgt. Wood is a graduate of Sam Barlow High School in Gresham, Ore., where he was a state champion in wrestling, and Oregon State University in Corvallis, Ore., where he was a two-time All-American.

When not practicing or training, Sgt. Wood likes to go hunting. He and wife Lisa have four children.